
HOUSE BILL No. 1291

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 15-5-12-1.

Synopsis: Liability for dog attacks. Specifies that the owner of a dog may be held liable for up to \$150,000 in damages if the owner's dog bites another person.

Effective: July 1, 2001.

Frenz

January 9, 2001, read first time and referred to Committee on Public Policy, Ethics and Veterans Affairs.

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First Regular Session 112th General Assembly (2001)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2000 General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1291

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning agriculture and animals.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 15-5-12-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
2 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2001]: Sec. 1. (a) If a dog, without
3 provocation, bites any person who is peaceably conducting himself in
4 any place where he **has a right to be, or** may be required to go for the
5 purpose of discharging any duty imposed upon him by the laws of this
6 state **or the Constitution of the State of Indiana** or by the laws **or**
7 **Constitution of the United States of America**, or by postal
8 regulations of the United States of America, the owner of such dog may
9 be held **civilly** liable for any damages suffered by the person bitten,
10 regardless of the former viciousness of such dog, ~~or~~ the owner's
11 knowledge of such viciousness, **or the fact that the bite occurred on**
12 **the dog owner's property.**

13 **(b) Damages awarded in an action brought under this section**
14 **may not exceed one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000).**

15 **(c) A civil action under this section is not a bar to criminal**
16 **prosecution.**



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